

[10537/119]



**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
GROUP ART UNIT 1762**

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Horst PILLHOFER et al.

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Serial No.: 09/857,763

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REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

SIR:

This paper addresses the Final Office Action dated June 10, 2003 in connection with the above-captioned application.

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Claims 8 to 14 are pending in the present application. In view of the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

II. Rejection of Claims 8 to 12 and 14 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 8 to 12 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,215,785 ("Strasser et al.") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,156,042 ("Hayman et al."). Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Strasser et al. and Hayman et al. does not render obvious the present claims for at least the following reasons.